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ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

1957

THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including the Report of the

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the year 1957

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor D. E. Davies J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor H. Fern

PUBLIC HEALTH AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor C.J. Peach

Vice-Chairman : Councillor H. Fern

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WATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE

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Vice-Chairman : Councillor T. R. Toon

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J. E. R. Wilkinson

ACCOUNTANT AND DEPUTY CLERK

C.M. Taylor A.I.M.T.A.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

A. McM. W. Segerdal M.D.,D.P.H.

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

C. S. Curtis M.A.P.H.I.,C.R.S.H.,DIP.P.H.H.(Hons)

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

F. H. Wynne M.A.P.H.I.,C.R.S.H.,DIP.P.H.H.(Hons).,A.I.B.S.

CHIEF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT

D. N. Rosillo A.R.I.B.A.

WATER ENGINEER AND ENGINEERING ASSISTANT

C. Mugglestone A.R.I.C.S.,M.R.S.H.

Rural District Council Offices,
South Street,
Ashby-de-la-Zouch,
Leicestershire.

June, 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Rural District Council of
Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report for the year 1957.

According to the Registrar General's estimate, the population has increased from 13,850 to 13,890.

The birth rate (15.6) is slightly higher than last year (14.2) and lower than that for England and Wales (16.1).

The death rate (12.1) is higher than last year (11.3) and higher than that for England and Wales (11.5). The death rate of infants under one year is 13.8 compared with 15.2 in 1956, and England and Wales 23.0, and the still birth rate is also very low (4.6) compared with 22.4 for England and Wales.

Of the 151 deaths during the year there were 13 deaths from accidents and suicide. The chief causes of death, as has been the case for some years past, were from diseases associated with elderly people.

The Cheshire Home for the sick has been enlarged and at the end of the year there were 32 patients, 17 men and 15 women, all chronic sick.

It will be noted that all the parishes, with the exception of Bardon have a piped water supply. Work of sinking the Bore-hole at Acresford was completed during the year.

Sewerage schemes at Appleby Magna and Snarestone were nearing completion at the end of the year. The scheme for pumping sewage from Osgathorpe to the Coalville Urban District Council's works was also completed during the year. There are 378 cesspools in the district and 18 cesspools were constructed during the year. 178 closets were converted to the water carriage system.

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85 houses were completed during the year, making a total of 843 houses completed in the post-war period, of which 650 houses were completed by the local authority. The total number of applicants for council houses at the end of the year was 275 and the number of applications received during the year was 105.

Implementation of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 proceeds satisfactorily and no formal action has been necessary.

481 cases of Infectious diseases were notified, of these 311 were measles, 156 whooping cough, 11 pneumonia and 3 erysipelas. There were 6 deaths all from pneumonia.

Again I am pleased to record an increase in the number of children being immunised against diptheria.

Only two cases of tuberculosis, both males and Pulmonary, were notified during the year and there were no deaths from tuberculosis.

Evidence of Brucella Abortus infection was again found in milk, but no formal action was necessary.

To the staff of the Public Health Department of the County Council and to Doctor Mair, Director of the Public Health Laboratory, I wish to extend my thanks for their willing help and co-operation.

Finally, I wish to thank Mr. C. S. Curtis, Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, and to thank Mr. F. H. Wynne, Additional Public Health Inspector, for their invaluable help during the year and you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your kindness and co-operation.

I remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. McM. W. Segerdal
M.D.,D.P.H.

SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area (in acres)		28,267
Resident Population (R.G's estimate)		13,890
Number of inhabited houses		4,468
Rateable Value - 1st April 1957		£ 116,769
Sum represented by a penny rate - 1957-58(Estimated)		£ 462
Comparability Factor - Births		1.00
Deaths		1.11

The chief industries in the area are agriculture; coal mining; opencast coal working; brickmaking; stoneware and pipemaking and stone quarrying. There are also small textile works and light engineering works.

No particular industry was noted as having a specially injurious effect on health during the year.

Vital Statistics.

Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	117	97	214
Illegitimate	2	1	3
	119	98	217

Live Birth Rate : 15.6 per 1,000 population
England and Wales Birth Rate : 16.1 " " "

Still Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	0	1
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	1	0	1

Total Births

	Male	Female	Total
Live and Still	120	98	218

Still Birth Rate : 4.6 per 1,000 total (live and still) births
England and Wales Still Birth Rate : 22.4 " " " "

Deaths

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths	94	57	151

Death Rate : 12.1 per 1,000 population
England & Wales Death Rate : 11.5 " " "

Causes of Deaths during 1957

Diseases

	Male	Female	Total
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	3	7
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	5	0	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	1	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms	12	2	14
Leukaemina, aleukaemia	2	0	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	10	16
Coronary disease, angina	16	4	20
Hypertension with heart disease	1	0	1
Other heart disease	8	12	20
Other circulatory disease	4	1	5
Pneumonia	4	2	6
Bronchitis	7	0	7
Other disease of respiratory system	2	1	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1	3
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	0	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	2	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	0	3
Congenital malformations	1	0	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	6	15
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	4	4	8
Suicide	0	2	2
	94	57	151

Chief causes of death were :

Disease of heart and circulation	62
Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms (Cancer)	32
Disease of Respiratory System	16
Deaths from all accidents and suicide	13

Maternal Mortality

Total maternal mortality rate per 1,000 births

Live and still	:	0.0
England and Wales	:	0.47

Deaths of Infants under one year of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	2	1	3

Death rate of Infants under one year of age.

Per 1,000 live births	:	13.8
England and Wales per 1,000 live births	:	23.0

Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	1	1	2

Death rate of Infants under four weeks of age

Per 1,000 live births	:	9.2
England and Wales per 1,000 live births	:	16.5

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Hospitals

All hospitals, except some private maternity and nursing homes, are under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

The County Homes for the aged and destitute are under the County Council. When the inmates take ill they become the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

Cheshire Home for the Sick

The home is entirely voluntary and not under the Regional Hospital Board.

At the end of the year there were 32 patients, 17 men and 15 women, all chronic sick.

During the year a further women's ward has been occupied. Three other wards are in process of being completed and a further bathroom is to be constructed.

Central heating has been installed in the major part of the house.

In 1957 a new small sewage disposal works was completed. The house has not yet been connected to the mains water supply.

Treatment Centres and Clinics

There are none actually in the district.

Infant welfare clinics are held every Thursday afternoon at the Baptist School, Ashby-de-la-Zouch and every second and fourth Thursday afternoon at the Centenary Methodist Church, Donisthorpe Road, Moira. At the Health Centre, Bridge Road, Coalville, an Ante-Natal clinic is available. The tuberculosis clinic is held at Markfield Sanatorium under the auspices of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

Ambulance Facilities.

The County Council is responsible for all facilities in the County. Colliery accidents are removed by ambulances provided by the National Coal Board stationed at Nailstone Colliery and Moira Colliery.

Nursing in the Home.

All district nursing and midwifery in the home is under the Leicestershire County Council.

Health Visiting.

This work is provided by the Leicestershire County Council and the work of Health Visitor, School Nurse and Tuberculosis Visitor is combined in a single appointment.

The Diabetic Health Visitor attends the Diabetic Clinic at the Leicester Royal Infirmary and visits the patients in their homes.

Laboratory Facilities.

Public Health Laboratory, Isolation Hospital, Groby Road, Leicester

The following examinations were made :

Throat and nose swabs ...	2
Bloods	2
Faeces and Urine	26
Sputa	40
Waters	10
Ice Cream	10
Miscellaneous	19
	109

Generally there is co-operation between the local authority and the services provided by the Executive Council and the Hospital Board, and the tendency is towards closer integration.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

Water Supply

Mains supplies have been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Particulars of water supplies to dwelling houses :

Internal Mains Water Supply		Mains Water from External standpipes		Well Water Supply	
No. of dwelling houses	Population	No. of dwelling houses	Population	No. of dwelling houses	Population
3908	12,611	Not known	Not known	351 (Estimated)	1,128 (Estimated)

Number of parishes with piped supply of water :

From Public Mains : 16 From Private Reservoirs : Nil

Number of parishes without a piped supply of water :

One (Bardon)

In 17 cases a piped supply of water has been substituted for well water.

Water Supply from Wells

Number of Samples taken for Analysis			
Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
Chemical	Bacteriological	Chemical	Bacteriological
Nil	1	Nil	7

Number of wells closed : 12

Post War Proposals

The work of sinking the borehole at Acresford was completed and the new pump installed.

Sewage Disposal

Number of septic tanks constructed during the year : 18
Number of cesspools abolished during the year : 14

Total number in district on 31st December 1957 : 378

Number of parishes with efficient sewage disposal works ... ... : 7 (three overloaded)

Post War Proposals

Schemes at Appleby Magna and Snarestone were nearing completion at the year end. The scheme for the pumping of sewage from Osgathorpe to the Coalville Urban District Council's works was completed during the year.

Closet Accommodation.

Total number in district on 31st December 1957 :

Privies : 150 Pail Closets : 1160 W.C's : 3318

Number of closets converted to water carriage system during the year :

Privies : 4 Pails : 178

A grant of £10. 0. 0., or one half the cost, whichever is the lesser, is made towards the cost of conversion.

The contents of pails are emptied weekly and disposed of on to agricultural land and tips.

Public Cleansing

House refuse is removed by direct labour, using two Karrier Bantam 7 cubic yard and two 10 cubic yard refuse collection vehicles.

Number of parishes covered by routine collections :

Sixteen

House refuse is disposed of to three controlled tips and one crude tip.

Sanitary Inspections of the Area

Total number of complaints received ...	124
Total number of premises at which defects or nuisances were dealt with	118
Total number of defects or nuisances dealt with	253

Inspections made

Animal keeping	8
Bakehouses	14
Dairies	4
Drainage Works	578
Dwelling-houses (all purposes)	839
Food Premises	322
Refuse Collection and Disposal	54
Rodent Control	(Carried out by Council's Rodent Operator)
Shops	66
Slaughter-houses and Meat Inspection	483
Tents, Vans, Sheds etc.,	24
Water Supplies	32
Workshops, Outworkers etc.,	57
Other Inspections	897
	3,378

Notices

Preliminary	Housing	Public Health
Outstanding on January 1st 1957	-	38
Issued during the year	-	118
Complied with during the year	-	126
Statutory action necessary	-	-
Outstanding 31st December 1957	-	30

Statutory		
Outstanding on 1st January 1957	-	3
Issued during the year	-	-
Complied with during year	-	3
Outstanding 31st December 1957	-	-

Shops

Particulars of action taken during the year under the Provisions of Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950.

	Defects found	Defects remedied	Outstanding at 31st Dec 1957
Sanitary Conveniences	2	2	-
Temperature	1	1	-

Camping Sites

During the year 14 licences were issued in respect of movable dwellings under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Regulated Buildings

Regulated Buildings	Number in district	Number of Inspections	Action Taken	General Conditions
Tents, Vans Sheds etc.,	14	24	Verbal warnings	

Eradication of Bed bugs : No action necessary.

Pet Animal Act, 1951 : No premises in area.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 : Routine parish by parish inspection, private dwellings treated free, business premises on a time plus material basis carried out by one man employed half time.

Schools : No action taken.

Swimming baths and Pools open to the Public : None in the area.

SECTION D

HOUSING

New Houses

Houses completed during year	TYPE		Average cost per house excl. site works and land	Average rent exclusive of rates
	Prefab Permanent	Permanent		
By Local Authority	-	62	£1484	21/1d. for 2 bed/flats to 24/1d. for 3 bed/houses
Private Enterprise	-	23	-	-

Houses in course of construction at year end

By Local Authority	-	28 +2 shops		
Private Enterprise	-	22		

Total number of post war houses completed by Local Authority 650

Total number of post war houses completed by private enterprise 193

Total number of applicants for Council houses at end of year 275

Number of applications received for Council houses during the year 105

Total number of Council houses in the district prior to the war (1939) 322

Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding

Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year ..	Not known
Number of families dwelling therein	-
Number of persons dwelling therein	-
Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	-
Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	22
Number of persons concerned in such cases	79

It is not know if any cases have again become overcrowded after steps had been taken for the abatement of overcrowding.

Housing Summary

Total number of occupied houses in the district	4,468
Total number of Council houses occupied in the district	972

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Ice Cream

Number of premises registered for manufacture and retail	1
Number of premises registered for manufacture only	-
Number of premises registered for retail only	44

Number of samples taken : 10

Results :

Grade 1	:	7
Grade 2	:	2
Grade 3	:	1
Grade 4	:	Nil

Milk Supply

Dairies (other than dairy farms) and distributors (Section 8 Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949)

Number on Register	:	Dairies ..	2
		Distributors	18
Number of Inspections	:	Dairies ..	4
		Distributors	29

Biological Milk Samples

Number of routine bulk samples taken ..	53
Results satisfactory	51
Evidence of living Tubercle Bacilli	-
Evidence of Brucella Abortus	2
Number of individual samples following a positive brucella abortus report on routine sample	76

Bacteriological Milk Samples

41 samples of designated "Tuberculin Tested" milk were taken and 40 proved to be satisfactory, one unsatisfactory.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

Particulars of Licences issued :

	Pasteurised	Sterilised
Dealer's Licences	7	-
Supplementary Licences ..	7	-

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Particulars of Licences issued :

Dealer's Licences	:	6
Supplementary Licences	:	9

Meat and other Foods

Number of licenced slaughter houses in area	6
Number of animals slaughtered therein	2,221
Number of animals examined therein	2,221
Number of inspections of meat at time of slaughter	12%
Number of Knacker yards in area	1
Number of visits to Knacker's yards	6

Meat Stalls

Number of inspections	Nil

Meat Shops, Meat Stores etc.

Number of inspections	26

Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale.

Number of inspections	143

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

Number of premises inspected	61
Number of inspections made for the purpose	263
Number of Informal Notices served ..	33
Number of Informal Notices complied with	28
Number of Informal Notices outstanding at 31st December 1957	19
Number of Formal Notices served ..	Nil
Number of Formal Notices complied with	-
Number of Formal Notices outstanding at 31st December 1957	-

Meat Inspection - Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	504	211	3	1214	289
Number inspected	504	211	3	1214	289
All Diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci					
Whole carcases condemned	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	82	77	nil	49	3
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	16.3	36.5	nil	4.04	1.04
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	1	nil	nil	nil	nil
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	17	20	nil	nil	8
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	3.8	9.5	nil	nil	2.08
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Three specimen samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory for examination but were negative.				

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis) during 1957

Disease	Final No. after correction	Cases admitted to hospital	Total deaths
Whooping Cough	156	-	-
Measles	311	-	-
Pneumonia	11	-	6
Erysipelas	3	-	-
Total	481	-	6

Analysis under Age Groups According to Registrar General's Return 118d.

Age Group	Whooping Cough	Measles
Under 1 year	7	6
1 to 2	11	20
2 to 3	14	22
3 to 4	19	32
4 to 5	17	30
5 to 9	24	176
10 to 14	19	25
15 to 24	17	-
25 and over	24	-
Age unknown	4	-
Total	156	311

Age Group	Pneumonia	Erysipelas
Under 5 years	-	-
5 to 14	3	-
15 to 44	4	-
45 to 64	3	1
65 and over	1	2
Total	11	3

Table showing incidence of Notifiable Disease in each Parish during year 1957

Parish	Whooping Cough	Measles	Pneumonia	Erysipelas
Appleby Magna	47	71	3	1
Chilcote	2	1	-	-
Coleorton	-	8	-	-
Heather	10	2	-	-
Measham	40	74	4	-
Oakthorpe & Donisthorpe	27	5	1	-
Normanton-le-Heath	1	-	-	-
Packington	2	-	1	-
Ravenstone	1	38	-	-
Snarestone	23	39	-	1
Stretton-en-le-Field	2	2	-	-
Swannington	-	44	2	-
Swepstone	1	2	-	1
Worthington	-	25	-	-
Total	156	311	11	3

The following table shows the incidence of Infectious Diseases in each Parish monthly

Year 1957		Appleby Magna	Chilcote	Coleorton	Heather	Measham	Normanton	Oakthorpe & Donisthorpe	Packington	Ravenstone	Snarestone	Stretton	Swannington	Swepstone	Worthington
Jan	Measles	1	-	1	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Whooping Cough	-	-	-	1	8	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
	Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feb	Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
	Whooping Cough	32	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	1	-
Mar	Measles	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Whooping Cough	11	-	-	-	11	-	3	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
	Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apr	Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	-	-	-	-
	Whooping Cough	-	-	-	2	5	-	11	1	1	6	-	-	-	-
May	Measles	2	-	1	-	17	-	-	-	6	-	-	30	1	-
	Whooping Cough	-	-	-	4	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
	Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Jun	Measles	56	-	-	-	46	-	-	-	5	8	-	4	1	1
	Whooping Cough	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Jul	Measles	9	-	5	1	4	-	-	-	3	-	-	32	-	23
	Whooping Cough	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Aug	Measles	3	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	4	-	-	8	-	1
	Whooping Cough	4	1	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Sept	Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
	Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oct	Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nov	Measles	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	Whooping Cough	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec	Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-

Whooping Cough was prevalent during the first part of the year and Measles prevalent between April and September.

The two cases of food poisoning which had not been cleared by the end of 1956 were finally cleared during the year.

A symptomless carrier of Para Typhoid B was reported as coming into the district in September 1957 and was still under observation at the end of the year.

Statement of Particulars appearing in the Register of Notifications of cases of Tuberculosis for the year 1957

	Pulmonary		Non-Pul.		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Number of cases on Register at commencement of year	21	16	8	11	56
Number of cases notified for first time during the year	2	-	-	-	2
Number of cases restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-
Number of cases added to Register and brought to notice other than by formal notification	-	-	-	-	-
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year	2	2	1	-	5
Number of cases remaining on the Register at end of year	21	14	7	11	53

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Number of children who were immunised during the period 1st January 1957 - 31st December 1957

Age at 31.12.57	Under 1 1957	1 1956	2 1955	3 1954	4 1953	5 1952	6 1951	7 1950	8 1949	9 1948	10 1947	11 1946	12 1945	Total
Primary Immunisation	32	104	17	5	5	7	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	174
Booster Injection	-	-	-	-	25	86	12	2	-	1	-	-	-	126

Tuberculosis - Year 1957

Causes of Removal from Register

	MALES		FEMALES		
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
Cured	2	-	1	-	3
Left District	1	1	-	-	2
Total	3	1	1	-	5

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

Resumé of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1957, which has already been sent to the Ministry of Labour and National Service. Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts

Part I of the Act

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	32	30	1
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	7	22	-
Total	39	52	1

Cases in which defects were found

	No. of cases in which defects were found		
	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Unsuitable or defective	4	4	1

Part VIII of the Act

Outworkers (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Number of Outworkers in August list required by Sections 111 (1) (c)
Wearing apparel, making etc.,	9

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Rural District Council Offices,
South Street,
Ashby-de-la-Zouch
Leicestershire.

June, 1958

To the Chairman and Members of
the Rural District Council of
Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

During the year to which this Report relates, new legislation which was perhaps of greatest public health importance to local authorities was that dealing with housing. The very controversial Rent Act, 1957 came into force, as did regulations made thereunder. The Housing Act, 1957 also became law but this was to a great extent a consolidating Act.

Towards the year end we had a spate of applications for certificates of disrepair as a result of rent increase notices being served on tenants. Many of the houses concerned were affected by mining subsidence and in many cases it was not easy to draw a line between disrepair and mining subsidence damage.

Work in connection with the closing and demolition of unfit properties was pressed forward and at the year end a further 36 unfit houses had been formally represented making a total of 173 houses dealt with so far under the five year programme.

A surprising amount of difficulty was experienced in getting unfit properties cleared away after the tenants had been rehoused, not so much because of difficulty with the owners, but rather because the demolition contractors did not get on with the job once the order was placed with them.

New private house building slowed down very considerably, only half the number of private houses being completed during this year compared with 1956. I think there is no doubt that more houses would have been under construction at the year end but for the increases in the rate of interest on borrowed money.

The Council's large housing scheme at Worthington commenced early in the year was nearing completion at the year end. It seems a great pity that the housing programme has to be slowed down just at a time when real headway was being made into the clearance of slums and the rehousing of people from the "general need" waiting list. It is, however, fortunate that this Council have felt able to continue with the programme, as far as is necessary, to rehouse people from unfit properties.

Progress in connection with the finding of sites in the smaller villages for the erection of Council houses has not been satisfactory. Difficulty has been experienced either with purchasing suitable sites, overcoming planning objections or being able to make provision for the satisfactory drainage of the proposed houses.

COMPLAINTS

Set out below are details of the various complaints which have been received together with a table showing repairs and improvements carried out.

Dwellings rendered fit or defects remedied	67
Complaints received	124
Premises inspected	124
Groundless complaints	6
Revisits to work in hand	263
Premises at which nuisances abated	126
Informal Notices served	118
Statutory Notices served	1
Damp proof courses inserted	6
Water closets repaired	7
Pan closets repaired	4
Drains relaid, repaired, trapped or ventilated, or cleared (does not include sewers) ..	15
Cesspools cleansed or repaired	163
Roofs repaired	20
Chimneys repaired	17
Damp walls remedied	20
Doors repaired	12
Windows repaired or renewed	38
Fireplaces repaired, or new ones provided ..	13
Plastering repaired	21
Sinks provided	7

Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	9
Floors repaired	11
Smoke nuisances abated	3
Animal nuisances abated	8
Staircases repaired	1
Walls repaired	4
Flooded cellars cleared	2
Pantries repaired	4
Flooding abated	4
Ditches cleaned out	3
Dangerous buildings made safe	2
Offensive accummulations removed	3
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	20

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

The system whereby a part time rodent operator is employed has continued. The man works alternate weeks on these duties.

Free treatment is carried out for domestic premises and a charge made for treatment at business and agricultural premises. The Council's sewage works, refuse tips, sewers &c., are baited regularly.

A total of 1790 visits were made by the operator and 209 premises treated.

FOOD INSPECTION

Much work in connection with food handling has been carried out and efforts continued to ensure that all premises are made to comply with the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

As in previous years, 100% meat inspection was carried out and it is pleasing to be able to comment and express satisfaction with the class of animal slaughtered for food purposes. Once again, reference can be made to the very small amount condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Slaughter Houses

Number of licenced premises	6
Number of informal notices served	4
Number of informal notices complied with	4
Number of visits made	483

Knacker Yards

Number in district	1
Number of inspections made	6
Number of informal notices served	1
Number of informal notices complied with	1

Butcher's Shops

Number of butcher's shops in district	10
Number of inspections made	36

Premises registered for the preparation of preserved food.

Number of premises registered	6
Number of inspections made	17

Two notices to cleanse and decorate were served and both were complied with.

Fried Fish Shops

Number of premises registered	3
Number of inspections made	9

One new shop has been constructed and registered. Following discussions with the owner, the premises were brought up to a high standard.

Food Shops (other than foregoing)

A systematic inspection of these shops has commenced parish by parish. To date four parishes have been completed.

The owners of the Multiple Stores in the district have been interviewed and extensive works to the various shops have been commenced.

Number of shops inspected	23
Number of inspections made	66
Number of informal notices served	10

Ice Cream

Number of premises registered	44
Number of premises in use	29

One business registered for the preparation of hot mix ice cream has closed down.

Catering Establishments

Number of premises in district	4
Number of inspections made	17

One new snack bar was opened during the year and these premises are extremely satisfactory.

Bakeries

Number of bakeries in district	3
Number of inspections made	14

One bakery was closed down during the year.

Licensed Premises

Number of premises inspected	11
Number of informal notices served	9
Number of premises brought up to the required standard	4
Number of premises where work is in hand	5
Number of visits made	46

Works Canteens

A complete survey of all works canteens was made during the year, and with a few exceptions, the standard of hygiene was found to be low.

In all cases the management have co-operated to improve the conditions and a very reasonable standard has now been achieved.

Number of canteens in district	15
Number of informal notices served	11
Number of informal notices complied with	9
Number of new canteens to be constructed	1
Number of new canteens under construction	1
Number of inspections made	67

Food Condemned (other than meat)

Oranges	1 tin
Fruit Salad	2 "
Ox Tongue	3 "
Tomatoes	3 "
Vegetable salad	8 "
Strained foods	23 "
Peas	2 "

Beans	1 tin
Cream	2 "
Pineapple Juice	1 "
Apricots	2 "
Corned beef	2 "
Shoulder of Pork	1 "

Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949

During the year licences as follows were issued :

Supplementary Licences to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk	9
Dealer's Licences to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk	6
Supplementary Licences to use special Designation "Pasteurised"	7
Dealer's Licences to use the special Designation "Pasteurised"	7
Dealer's Licence to open and cool "Tuberculin Tested" milk	1

Routine inspections of distributing vehicles have again continued to be carried out.

During the year 53 samples of milk were taken for biological examination and 41 samples for bacteriological examination. In addition 76 "follow-up" samples were taken.

The Ashby-de-la-Zouch Rural District is in a specified area and no milk, other than designated milk may be sold.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The bonus scheme whereby workmen are paid a bonus provided all the work allocated to them is carried out, has now been in operation for over two years. The system whereby two teams comprising 4 men each and the other team comprising 6 men has continued. The latter team has continued to spend two afternoons each week cesspool emptying; this team has the largest pail collection.

The pail closets have been emptied at weekly intervals and bins every 7 working days. (A five day week is worked).

During the year under review 161 cesspools were emptied.

Dustbins have continued to be provided as a charge against the rates, 383 being issued during the year. This number included 62 to new Council houses.

54 visits were made to properties in connection with refuse collection.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Number of inspections of factories .. 52

TENTS, VANS, AND SHEDS.

Licences have been issued in respect of 14 caravans. These continue to be spread throughout the district. A total of 24 inspections have been made.

The policy of applicants first being requested to make application under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947 has again continued. If this is granted, an application for licencing under the Public Health Act, 1936 is then placed before the Council for their consideration.

NEW DRAINAGE AND CLOSET CONVERSIONS

Grants of not more than £10. 0. 0. per closet converted is given to encourage owners to convert to the water carriage system. Although this is some slight inducement where sewers are available, with present day prices, in very few cases indeed does this amount approach anything near half the cost of the work. It is no inducement at all in parishes where septic tanks have to be provided because of the absence of sewage schemes. Despite this, in the newly sewered parishes quite reasonable progress has been made.

New drainage systems laid to sewer	13
Old drains repaired and extended	28
New water closets constructed to replace pan closets	178
Additional W.C. accommodation provided	64
New drainage to septic tanks	6
Septic tanks provided	6
Pail closets abolished	183
Re-visits of inspection	465

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS AND SCHEMES

At last permission has been obtained for a commencement of the Packington sewerage scheme. This parish is very rapidly developing; the fact that building land has been available and its proximity to Ashby-de-la-Zouch has led to a considerable amount of new house building over the past few years and it has become essential that the sewerage scheme be carried out.

All the larger villages in the Rural District now have a sewerage scheme of sorts. Unfortunately, the older works are now becoming heavily overloaded and the situation becomes worse with each new house built.

I have previously drawn attention to the position at Ravenstone, Measham and Donisthorpe. Ravenstone works are completely submerged during heavy rainfall and for weeks on end the irrigation area has been a pond. The overloading at the Measham works will become more acute when the new pit head baths at Measham Main Colliery are brought into use. At Donisthorpe more land will have to be obtained for sludge drainings as an emergency measure.

Despite my forebodings about the Newbold works we managed to keep these functioning without the expenditure of any more money on repairs, but it would be a very good thing if the village of Newbold could be properly sewered.

The mining subsidence position so far as it affected sewers worsened rapidly during the year. One steel sewer at Donisthorpe became so badly blocked that an expenditure of approximately £300. 0. 0. was needed to clean out a length of approximately 1,100 feet. One length of sewer in the parish of Measham, one at Oakthorpe and two at Donisthorpe have to be emptied regularly by the Cesspool Emptying machine to keep the sewers flowing.

The one bright side to this rather gloomy picture (from the Council's point of view) was the passing of the Coal Mining (Subsidence) Act, 1957 which made the Coal Board responsible for paying compensation for damage caused to sewers after the 1st August, 1957.

Capital Schemes in Progress or Approved.

	Estimated Cost	Progress at 31. 12. 57
Appleby Magna	£44,200	Sewers laid. Works under construction. Connections from private houses commenced.
Osgathorpe	£22,300	Laying of sewers completed. Pumping station in operation.
Snarestone	£12,300	Laying of sewers completed. Connections from private houses commenced.
Packington	£23,000	Contract signed for the carrying out of the work.
Measham Sewage Works extension	£17,800	Scheme approved by Ministry. No starting date fixed.
Atherstone Road, Measham	£11,500	Ministry would not approve this scheme in 1953.
Normanton-le-Heath	£ 9,100	Scheme deferred on grounds of high cost.
Coleorton and part Swannington	Not known	Ministry would not approve this section of the joint scheme with Worthington in 1953.
Acresford	Not known	Ministry would not approve this scheme in 1952 and the Council decided to take no further action at that time.
Ravenstone Sewage Works extension	Not known	Scheme not yet prepared.
Chilcote	Not known	Report to be prepared.

Inspection of sewers	56
Blocked sewers cleared	7
Inspections whilst work in hand ..	35
Inspections of sewage works	180

STREET NUMBERING

During the year properties in the parishes of Snarestone and Packington were numbered and preparatory work for the numbering of Swepstone and Newton Burgoland was put in hand.

WATER SUPPLY

The new borehole at Acresford was completed during the year and the pump installed. The Council are now in a happy position as far as pumping arrangements are concerned on both sides of the district.

The fact that chlorinating equipment has still not been installed at the two waterworks gives cause for some anxiety with the many breakages of mains which occurs in a district badly affected by subsidence. I think it vital that the installation of chlorinating equipment be speeded up.

Wells closed for drinking purposes ..	12
Houses inspected regarding water supply	32
Number of samples taken for analysis	14
Number of samples satisfactory ..	6
Number of samples unsatisfactory ..	8
Water laid on from public mains ..	19 (excludes new houses)

HOUSING

New Buildings, Additions, Extensions, Improvements &c.,

New houses by Local Authority	62
New houses by private enterprise	23
New houses drained to sewer	78
New houses drained to septic tanks	7
New houses with water from public main	85
New houses with water closets	85
Cowsheds	2
Factory buildings	2
Piggeries	3
Garages	17
Septic tanks (other than new houses)	5

Bedrooms	3
Pantries	5
Additional water closets	2
Conversions to water closets from pans	18
Hot water systems	25
Bathrooms	23
Kitchens	6
Houses reconstructed	2
Damp proof courses provided	5
New fireplaces	7
New floors	6
Conversion of one house into two	1
Conversion of disused school into a bungalow	1
Miscellaneous	8
Visits of inspection	529

Town and Country Planning Act, 1947

Administration in connection with development under the Act is carried out by the Council in conjunction with the Western Area Sub-Committee of the Leicestershire County Council.

During the year 167 applications were made in respect of permission to develop.

Loans for House Purchase

15 properties were inspected during the year as a result of requests for loans in connection with house purchase which is a decrease of 2 over 1956.

Construction of new Council Houses

Work at the Worthington site continued during the year. Work was at first held up due to weather conditions and to the petrol shortage which occurred due to the "Suez Crisis". However, work recommenced early in March and by the end of the year good progress had been made.

At the year end the position was as follows :

Completed

3 bedroomed South Aspect houses ..	24
3 bedroomed North Aspect houses ..	38

In course of erection

3 bedroomed South Aspect houses ..	4
3 bedroomed North Aspect houses ..	6
2 bedroomed flats	18
Shops	2

The average construction cost of these houses is expected to be £1484. 12. 4. per house. To this should be added £268. 9. 4. and £16. 3. 8. per house in respect of site works and land purchase respectively making a total average cost per house of £1769. 5. 4.

During the year the Council gave instructions for the preparation of plans &c., for the erection of three bedroomed houses and two bedroomed bungalows. These to be erected in the various parishes to rehouse people from slum clearance properties. This work was held up due to the fact that the Council's Clerk of Works resigned and Mr. Rosille had to spend 90% of his time during the last four months of the year at the Worthington Housing Site.

Improvement Grants.

The Council's policy of giving improvement grants has continued.

Every effort is made by your officers to encourage people to improve their property and where ever extensive repairs are to be carried out at a property the owner's attention is drawn to the fact that for the expenditure of a little more money he can often provide a bathroom and hot water system with grant aid from the Council.

Although the number of interviews taking place in connection with improvement grants has been as great as previous years, the number of persons actually taking advantage of the legislation has fallen, due no doubt, to the fact that money is becoming progressively "dearer".

Total number of applications ..	40
Number of informal applications ..	24
Number of formal applications ..	16
Number of applications approved ..	16
Number of applications refused ..	-
Number of applications withdrawn ..	-

Total amount paid by way of grants amounted to £3,674. 0. 0.

Rent Act, 1957
Rent Restrictions Regulations, 1957

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair	42
Number of notices served on Landlords	39
Certificates of Disrepair issued	1
Undertakings given by Landlords	17
Certificates of Disrepair cancelled	3

Slum Clearance

Work in connection with slum clearance has continued to be pressed forward.

Visits of inspection 277

Closing Orders

Dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders made (includes 2 undertakings)	14
Number of persons rehoused	31

Demolition Orders

Dwellings in respect of which Demolition Orders made	18
Number of houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders ..	22
Number of dwellings rendered fit as a result of undertakings	-
Number of persons rehoused	134

Clearance Areas

Clearance Areas declared	1
Dwelling houses included in Clearance Areas ..	4
Clearance Areas confirmed by the Ministry	1
Number of persons rehoused	9

Reconditioning of Unfit Property

Renovation and repair of the five sub-standard houses purchased by the Council during 1956 was completed.

These five houses were "border line" slum clearance property but were light and airy houses with sound walls and roof timbers and had plenty of space around them. Although not in the Council's present five year programme they would, undoubtedly have had to be dealt with within the next 7 or 8 years.

Each house comprised living kitchen, sitting room and three bedrooms.

Work carried out was as follows :

(a) Replacement of the existing slate roof with concrete tiles on underfelt, together with new eaves gutters and downpipes.

(b) New windows throughout.

(c) Provision of a horizontal damp proof course.

(d) Provision of new floors in the kitchen/living room and sitting room. Floors finished with Marley tiles.

(e) Construction of small wash-houses at rear (also forming rear entrance).

(f) Conversion of one bedroom into bathroom and boxroom together with hot water system.

(g) Rayburn cookers substituted for existing dilapidated ranges.

(h) External rendering to all walls - Derbyshire Spa finish.

(i) Sundry repairs to pointing, doors, chimney stacks, coalstores &c.

The five houses were purchased by agreement for the sum of £785. 0. 0.

The final cost figure for the repairs and improvements was £3,684. 12. 3. It will be seen, therefore, that the total cost per house to the Council was £894. 0. 0.

The scheme was carried out under Section 15 of the Housing Act, 1949 and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government are making an annual grant of £99. 15. 5. for 20 years.

At the end of this Report are shown photographs and sketches etc., indicating the property before and after renovation.

During the year a number of offers were made by owners to the Council of property for renovation. At the year end the Council had provisionally agreed to the purchase of a terrace row of 10 houses with a view to repair and provision of bathroom, hot water system etc., and had refused to purchase a row of 5 other houses.

The Council were also taking interest in a scheme for the conversion of a number of Alms Houses into 8 ground floor and 12 first floor flats.

I wish to again express my appreciation to you, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen for your kindness and understanding during the year, to Doctor Segerdal for his help and consideration and to the Clerk of the Council and the Accountant for their ever ready co-operation.

Finally I would thank the members of the department for the cheerful and conscientious way they have carried out their duties.

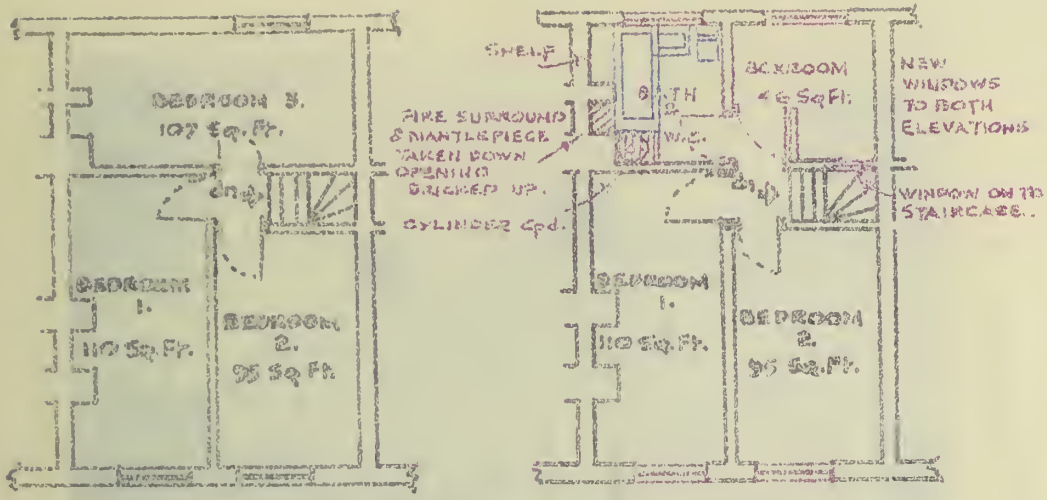
I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. S. Curtis.

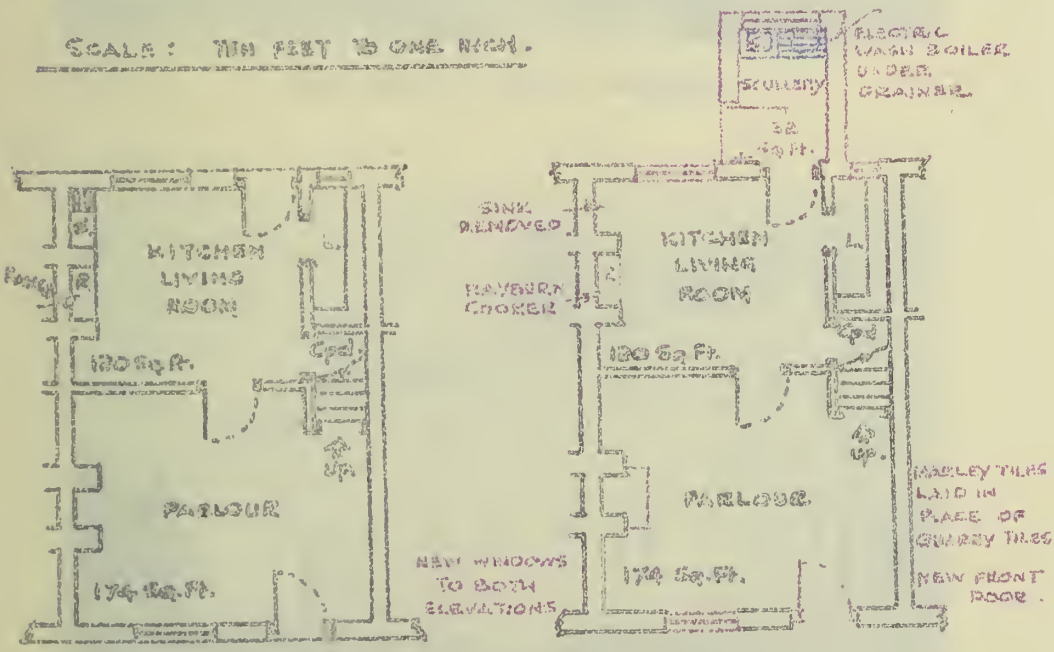
IMPROVEMENTS TO HOUSES - BOLINGUM TERRACE
72 - 80 NEW STREET - DONISTHORPE



TYPICAL FIRST FLOOR PLAN

BEFORE IMPROVEMENTS & AFTER IMPROVEMENTS.

SCALE: TEN FEET TO ONE INCH.



TYPICAL GROUND FLOOR PLAN.

BEFORE IMPROVEMENTS. & AFTER IMPROVEMENTS.

'BLENHEIM TERRACE'

FRONT ELEVATION BEFORE IMPROVEMENT

FRONT ELEVATION AFTER IMPROVEMENT

REAR ELEVATION BEFORE IMPROVEMENT

REAR ELEVATION AFTER IMPROVEMENT

KITCHEN / LIVING ROOM BEFORE IMPROVEMENT

KITCHEN / LIVING ROOM AFTER IMPROVEMENT

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